

App. No. 09/785,942

Amendment dated July 6, 2005

Reply to Office action of May 17, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the application. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,694,336 issued to Multer et al. (hereinafter "*Multer*") in view of "CDO & MAPI Programming with Visual Basic" published by Dave Grudgeiger, October 2000 (hereinafter "*Dave*"). Claims 1, 5, 10 and 15 are amended. No new matter has been added. In light of the amendments and the following remarks, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance because none of the cited reference anticipate nor make obvious the claimed invention.

In order to maintain a rejection under 35 USC § 103 (a), there must be some motivation or teaching in the principal reference to make the claimed combination. Moreover, all of the elements of the claimed invention must be found in the prior art references, without the use of hindsight reconstruction.

Multer is directed to a system for transferring and synchronizing data between two devices. "[T]he system comprises store and forward technology which utilizes...differentencing technology to implement services via a public or private network, such as the Internet." (col. 5, lines 22-25) A system data store includes "a representation of a previous state of application data in an application data store" (Abstract). A difference engine generates "difference information associated with a change to [the] application data store" (Abstract). An application interface interprets "application data for the difference engine" (Abstract).

Dave is directed to the Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI). MAPI enables different e-mail applications to work together to distribute mail. *Dave* teaches a survey of MAPI architecture. "MAPI divides messaging applications into components" (page 4). The components include: "a front end, or client, to manipulate messaging objects; a message store to store messaging objects; a transport provider to move messaging objects from one location to another; and an address book provider to allow storing, retrieving, and looking up user addresses in a directory." (page 2) *Dave* also teaches how collaboration data objects (CDO) wraps MAPI objects. "MAPI objects are COM objects exposed by the MAPI Subsystem and third-party software designed to be MAPI-compliant... CDO is built on top of MAPI...which

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means that when you instantiate a CDO object, that CDO object is accessing a MAPI object behind the scenes to do the real work.” (page 27)

At least some of the limitations found in Applicant's amended Claim 1 are not found in any of the cited prior art references. For example, neither *Multer*, *Dave*, nor any combination thereof teach “the instantiated message form communicates instructions to the main application using the standard interface, and an operation is performed on the message based on the instructions when the standard interface is called.” Moreover, none of the references cited in the Office Action anticipate nor make obvious the invention claimed in Claim 1. Since there are limitations in amended Claim 1 that are not found in *Multer*, *Dave*, or any of the other cited references of record, Claim 1 is proposed to be allowable.

Moreover, *Multer* and *Dave* teach away from the limitations recited in Applicant's amended Claim 1. *Multer* teaches a system for transferring and synchronizing data between two devices. *Dave* teaches a survey of MAPI architecture. Applicant's amended Claim 1 recites in pertinent part “the instantiated message form communicates instructions to the main application using the standard interface, and an operation is performed on the message based on the instructions when the standard interface is called.” The teachings of *Multer* and *Dave* are contradictory to the limitations recited in amended Claim 1. Thus, there is no guidance to combine *Multer* and *Dave* to produce the invention claimed in Applicant's amended Claim 1.

Furthermore, Claims 2-9 depend from Claim 1. As discussed above, Claim 1 is proposed to be allowable. Thus, Claims 2-9 are allowable for at least the same reasons that Claim 1 is allowable, and notice to that effect is solicited.

At least some of the limitations found in Applicant's amended Claim 10 are not found in any of the cited prior art references. For example, neither *Multer*, *Dave*, nor any combination thereof teach “communicating instructions from the instantiated message form to an application through an application interface; and performing an operation on the message based on the instructions when the application interface is called.” Moreover, none of the references cited in the Office Action anticipate nor make obvious the invention claimed in Claim 10. Since there are limitations in amended Claim 10 that are not found in *Multer*, *Dave*, or any of the other cited references of record, Claim 10 is proposed to be allowable.

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Moreover, *Multer* and *Dave* teach away from the limitations recited in Applicant's amended Claim 10. *Multer* teaches a system for transferring and synchronizing data between two devices. *Dave* teaches a survey of MAPI architecture. Applicant's amended Claim 10 recites in pertinent part "communicating instructions from the instantiated message form to an application through an application interface; and performing an operation on the message based on the instructions when the application interface is called." The teachings of *Multer* and *Dave* are contradictory to the limitations recited in amended Claim 10. Thus, there is no guidance to combine *Multer* and *Dave* to produce the invention claimed in Applicant's amended Claim 10.

Furthermore, Claims 11-14 depend from Claim 10. As discussed above, Claim 10 is proposed to be allowable. Thus, Claims 11-14 are allowable for at least the same reasons that Claim 10 is allowable, and notice to that effect is solicited.

At least some of the limitations found in Applicant's amended Claim 15 are not found in any of the cited prior art references. For example, neither *Multer*, *Dave*, nor any combination thereof teach "the message form object communicates instructions to the application, and an operation is performed on the communication message based on the instructions." Moreover, none of the references cited in the Office Action anticipate nor make obvious the invention claimed in Claim 15. Since there are limitations in amended Claim 15 that are not found in *Multer*, *Dave*, or any of the other cited references of record, Claim 15 is proposed to be allowable.

Moreover, *Multer* and *Dave* teach away from the limitations recited in Applicant's amended Claim 15. *Multer* teaches a system for transferring and synchronizing data between two devices. *Dave* teaches a survey of MAPI architecture. Applicant's amended Claim 15 recites in pertinent part "the message form object communicates instructions to the application, and an operation is performed on the communication message based on the instructions." The teachings of *Multer* and *Dave* are contradictory to the limitations recited in amended Claim 15. Thus, there is no guidance to combine *Multer* and *Dave* to produce the invention claimed in Applicant's amended Claim 15.

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Furthermore, Claims 16-23 depend from Claim 15. As discussed above, Claim 15 is proposed to be allowable. Thus, Claims 16-23 are allowable for at least the same reasons that Claim 15 is allowable, and notice to that effect is solicited.

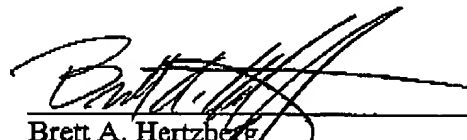
For at least the reasons stated above, it is believed that the rejection of Claims 1-23 under 35 USC § 103 (a) is overcome and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, pending Claims 1-23 are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons stated above and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully Submitted,
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